

Technical Bulletin for N.C. Stormwater General Permit NCG180000

Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources

Technical Bulletin for NCG180000

Last Revised 8/28/14

What activities are covered by this general permit?

- **NCG180000** authorizes stormwater discharges associated with those activities classified as establishments primarily engaged in manufacturing **Furniture and Fixtures**, SIC Major Group 25, and **Wood Kitchen Cabinets**, SIC 2434.

What are the key permit requirements?

- Implement a **Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP)** (Part II, Section A).
- Provide secondary containment for all bulk storage of liquid materials (Part II, Section A, 2.(b)).
- Twice-per-year qualitative self-monitoring during a measureable storm event (Part II, Section B).
- Twice-per-year analytical monitoring of qualifying vehicle maintenance area discharges (Part II, Section C).

What has changed since the last renewal?

Some of the significant changes to the permit text since the last renewal include:

- Refinements and clarifications to the **SPPP** requirements. See Part II, Section A.
- The permittee should find it easier to perform qualitative monitoring during a *measureable storm event* (new term), rather than during a *representative storm event* (old term.) See Part II, Section C.
- pH monitoring has been removed from the required monitoring in Part II, Section C.
- A lower TSS benchmark of 50 mg/L for especially protected waters has been added. See Part II, Section C.

What are BMPs, and why are they important?

The **SPPP** should identify the Best Management Practices (BMPs) used to control the discharge of pollutants from a facility's stormwater outfalls. BMPs can include a variety of measures that may help to minimize the potential for pollutants to get into the stormwater draining from a facility. There are different types of BMPs:

Non-structural BMPs (practices or activities) include:

- * Eliminating exposure of materials and equipment wherever possible by moving them to indoor locations.
- * Practicing good housekeeping on-site. Handle and store materials at the facility in an orderly fashion.
- * Exchanging hazardous materials for non-hazardous ones wherever possible.
- * Establishing routine leak & maintenance checks to reduce the chance of spills. Clean up spills immediately.
- * Establishing bulk storage tank protocols that minimize the risk of spills during loading and unloading.
- * Store process waste dumpsters inside or under roof so water can't flow onto or around them.

Structural BMPs (equipment or devices) include:

- * Containment dikes around the loading areas of bulk liquid storage containers.
- * Changing painting operations from liquid systems to powdered systems that do not generate solvent waste.
- * Roofs and secondary containment around materials stored outside so that stormwater cannot contact them.
- * Well-vegetated areas around pavement and facility operating areas can reduce the pollutants discharged.

Frequently Asked Questions

Could I be exempted from an NPDES stormwater permit?

Possibly. A facility subject to the NPDES stormwater regulations that eliminates all potential stormwater exposure may be eligible for a No Exposure Exclusion from a permit. The facility must self-recertify annually that it still fully meets the qualifications of no exposure. A facility may submit an application for this exclusion from permitting using the forms on our website. (See our website address below.)

What if I sell my business, or the name changes?

You are required to notify DEMLR of those changes, and our specific continuation of permit coverage is subject to the Director's approval. Please submit the Name/Ownership Change Form located on our Program website.

Do I have to monitor all the outfalls?

Yes, as provided in the permit text.

Does a certified lab need to analyze my samples?

Monitoring under NPDES permits must be conducted in accordance with test procedures approved in federal regulations in 40 CFR §136. All labs certified by North Carolina perform analyses in accordance with those procedures. N.C. certification requirements do not apply to *stormwater-only* discharges, **but** all data gathered and submitted under an NPDES permit must conform to federal requirements. Using a certified lab is one way to ensure compliance. A list of certified labs is available from:

<http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/lab/cert.htm>.

If I'm sampling my discharge, must I do qualitative monitoring at the same time?

Yes, as provided in the permit text. However, please note that under NCG18, only qualifying vehicle maintenance area discharges can be subject to analytical monitoring.

What do I do when my stormwater permit expires?

The Stormwater General Permit NCG18 remains in force and all covered facilities are allowed to continue discharging under the permit, until the general permit is reissued. *DEMLR will initiate the NCG18 General Permit renewal when it is about to expire.*

Who inspects me and for what?

DEMLR regional office staff may visit the site to see if you have the permit, an acceptable **SPPP**, and that you are following your **SPPP**. These inspections may be routine or they may be the result of public complaints. *Please take compliance seriously!* Facilities that violate stormwater permit conditions may be subject to fines. Civil penalties of up to **\$25,000 per day** may be assessed for each violation.



Other resources

In addition to the DEMLR Stormwater Permitting Program's website below, the Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service is a valuable resource. The DEACS has specific information about how to minimize pollutants at various industries. Call (877) 623-6748 or visit: <http://ncenvironmentalassistance.org/>

Who can help me with questions?

Your questions about stormwater permit requirements can be addressed to the Division's regional and central offices:

Asheville Office.....	(828) 296-4500	Washington Office.....	(252) 946-6481
Fayetteville Office.....	(910) 433-3300	Wilmington Office.....	(910) 796-7215
Mooresville Office.....	(704) 663-1699	Winston-Salem Office....	(336) 771-5000
Raleigh Office (Regional)	(919) 791-4200	Central Office (Raleigh)	(919) 707-9220



Helpful Link:

DEMLR Stormwater Permitting Program: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/lr/stormwater>